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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	FDGB Organ <u>Die Tribune</u>	DATE DISTR.	29 October 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
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1. The Tribune, organ of the FDGB, is published daily, except Sunday, in two editions, one for Berlin and one for the Russian zone. The editorial offices are in Berlin-Treptow, Am Treptower Park 28-29; the printing shop is close by on Herkomerstrasse. The number of copies issued each day is 125,000; but the staff advocates an arrangement with the FDGB for free delivery of the paper to all members of the FDGB, with the costs paid out of membership dues. If this project were carried out, the daily edition would be at least four and a half million copies, and the Tribune would be the largest paper in East Germany.
2. The enterprise loses money, and has to be assisted constantly with subventions from trade-union funds. A vigorous campaign for new subscriptions was started in October 1953, but brought no appreciable improvement in the situation. Attempts are also being made to reduce overhead costs.
3. The editorial office has about 100 employees, all of whom are members of the FDGB. There is a considerable turn-over of personnel (ascribed to "poor cadre work"), especially on the lower levels of the editorial staff. The executive committee of the FDGB continually finds fault with the fact that there are too few editors from the ranks of the laboring class. The paper has no foreign correspondents; articles purporting to be written by correspondents in London or Paris are actually compiled by staff members on the basis of official British or French publications. The greatest possible use is made of "worker-correspondents", about twenty of whom can be regarded as regular employees.

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